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DATE: March 22, 2004

TO: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office/Art Unit 1638  
Attn: Examiner David H. Kruse

FROM: Eric J. Kron

Re: Appl. No.: 09/954,950  
Applicant(s): Mahajan et al.  
Filed: September 18, 2001  
Art Unit: 1638  
Title: RICE MLH1 ORTHOLOG AND USES THEREOF

Confirmation No.: 8514

Enclosed is an Amendment After Final (16 pages) w/Appendices 1-5.

Part I of II

NO. OF PAGES:  
(Including cover page)

52/30

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RTA01/2152178v1

PAGE 1/30 \* RCVD AT 3/22/2004 6:14:00 PM [Eastern Standard Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/2 \* DNI:8729306 \* CSID:9198622260 \* DURATION (mm:ss):14:56

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PATENT

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED  
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1638**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

OFFICE

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Title: RICE MLH1 ORTHOLOG AND USES THEREOF  
  
Docket No.: 035718/238971(5718-142)  
Customer No.: 00826

Confirmation No.: 8514

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated January 21, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.

**An Appendix including Tabs 1-5**, as described below, is attached following page 16 of this paper.

NTA01/2149369v1